

REMARKS

Claims 11-16 are pending in the application, with claims 11, 12, 13 and 15 being independent. Claims 13-16 have been added. Support for these claims may be found in the application at, for example, Fig. 2 and the accompanying text at pages 5-7.

Claims 11 and 12 have been rejected as being anticipated by Sano (U.S. Patent No. 5,694,188). Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Sano does not describe or suggest a light modulating layer that includes a liquid crystal, an optically active substance, and a dichroic dye, as recited in claims 11 and 12. In particular, while Sano discloses a liquid crystal device having a comb-shaped wall electrode 10 and its interaction with liquid crystal molecules 13 and dichroic dye molecules 14, Sano does not describe or suggest the use of a layer that includes a liquid crystal, an optically active substance, and a dichroic dye. Accordingly, for at least this reason, the rejection of claims 11 and 12 should be withdrawn.

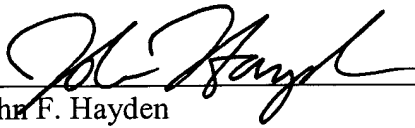
Claims 13 and 15 recite light modulating layers similar to those of claims 11 and 12, and are allowable for at least the same reasons, as are dependent claims 14 and 16.

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

Enclosed is a \$698 check (\$88 for excess claim fees, \$430 for the Petition for Extension of Time fee, and \$180 in payment of the late submission fee of §1.17(p)). Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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